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REPORT NO.**

50X1

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1. In 1949-50 an inventory was made of housing facilities in Lodz by the city housing commission (komisja mieszkaniowa). [redacted] similar surveys were made in all cities in the Lodz voivodship at the same time. The primary purpose of the inventory was to locate "Dead Souls" or people who had died or moved elsewhere but were still listed as residents of housing developments, and to this end every home was checked. 50X1
2. The commission made a door-to-door canvass to check on the square meters of each housing unit, and the number of people occupying the premises. Records were kept of these data so that the commission could allocate the available space when requests were made to them for housing. The commission also made a careful check of the condition of the buildings and planned, in the event of razing and rebuilding, to resettle the occupants elsewhere.
3. The commission had no plans or maps of the developments but had to draw up its own as it went along, citing locations and square footage of available living space. 50X1
4. [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] the outcome was that people were informed that all extra space would have to be filled. They were given a choice; either they found a tenant themselves or the housing commission would assign one. This did not pose much of a problem as there were many students in Lodz and, by finding his own tenant, the original occupant benefited in that he received the rent. In cases where the commission assigned tenants, the rent was paid to the government. 50X1
5. Generally speaking, private housing developments no longer exist in the city of Lodz. The former landowners could not pay the taxes and gave their property to the government. For example, the monthly income from a small apartment house could be 400 zloty per month, yet the government tax would be 1000 zloty per month. Therefore, the landlord turned over the building to the government and became a tenant. Rents were extremely cheap. [redacted] 100 zlotys per month to a tenant for one room whereas the tenant himself paid 30 zlotys monthly for five rooms. [redacted] 50X1 50X1

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The above rates are for older housing developments. The new developments, built by the government, are more in the luxury class, with central heating, and are much more expensive. Average rates run about 200 zlotys per month for two rooms in such apartments. Average space allotted was nine square meters per person.

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